

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 5225

NODIS

FROM MOYNIHAN FOR LORD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, UNGA, EGEN, ECOSOC

SUBJ: 59TH ECOSOC

1. IF A COPY OF CURRENT DRAFT OF MILWAUKEE SPEECH
WERE TO ACCOMPANY THE SECRETARY TO GENEVA, I MIGHT
BE OF SOME HELP IN GOING OVER IT. I RETURN ON THE
TWELFTH, WHICH WOULD BE LATE TO BE OF ANY REAL
ASSISTANCE AT THAT POINT.

2. THE CURRENT ECOSOC MEETING, WHICH PRECEDES AND
PRESUMABLY ANTICIPATES THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN SEPTEMBER, HAS OPENED ON A
CONCILIATORY NOTE. SOMEBODY HAS BEEN READING THE
SECRETARY'S SPEECHES IN KANSAS CITY AND AT THE OECD. ALSO
COMMENTARY. ALL REFERRED TO AND RECAPITULATED IN A
POSITIVE, EVEN WELCOMING MANNER IN THE OPENING ADDRESS
OF THE ECOSOC PRESIDENT, A PAKISTANI. THERE IS SURELY
A DISPOSITION TO SEE HOW MUCH WE MEAN OF WHAT WE APPEAR
TO HAVE BEEN SAYING, AND IT IS ASSUMED THE MILWAUKEE
SPEECH WILL HAVE SOME SPECIFICS, IF INDEED WE ARE EVER TO
COME FORWARD WITH ANY. (THIS INVOLVES A PROCEDURAL POINT
OF SORTS WHICH I GATHER THE CAREER SERVICE IS NERVOUS
ABOUT EXPLAINING TO THE SEVENTH FLOOR. EVIDENTLY THE
GROUP OF SEVENTY SEVEN AND SUCH WILL NOT DISCUSS AT
THE SPECIAL SESSION PROPOSALS WHICH ARE NOT SOMEHOW
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MADE KNOWN TO THEM IN ADVANCE. OR SO IT IS SAID. I

HAVE NO FINAL JUDGEMENT OF MY OWN AT THIS POINT, BUT
CLEARLY THE QUESTION HAS SOME BEARING ON THE WELL KNOWN
ELEMENT OF SURPRISE.)

3. ON DISTINCT IMPRESSION. THE EUROPEANS ARE FAR AHEAD
OF US IN THEIR PLANS FOR DEALING WITH RELATIONS BETWEEN
THE INDUSTRIALIZED WORLD AND THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.
CHRISTOPHER SOAMES, SPEAKING FOR THE COMMUNITY, GAVE
A MAJOR ADDRESS IN LONDON ON JULY ONE. HE PROPOSED
PRICE UNDERSTANDINGS WITH THE OIL PRODUCERS WHICH WOULD
PROTECT THE PURCHASING POWER OF THEIR EARNINGS; AGREEMENTS
ON THE STABILIZATION OF THE EXPORT EARNINGS OF THE
POOREST COUNTRIES AND ON THE WIDER AND MORE EFFECTIVE
USE OF COMMODITY AGREEMENTS; THE PROMOTION OF INDUSTRI-
ALIZATION IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD; LIBERALIZATION OF
TRADE TO GIVE SPECIAL WEIGHT TO THE NEEDS AND INTERESTS
OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES; AND AN INCREASE IN AID,
ESPECIALLY FOOD AID. IT WOULD SEEM TO ME THAT WE HAVE
GOT TO BEGIN TRACKING WITH THEM AND SIMULTANEOUSLY
PASSING THE WORD IN WASHINGTON THAT UNLESS WE GET
ORGANIZED TO BE CONCRETE AND POSITIVE OURSELVES, IF
ONLY AS AN EXERCISE IN CUTTING OUR LOSSES, WE ARE
LIKELY IN THE FALL TO FIND OURSELVES VERY MUCH ALONE,
WHOLLY AT A DISADVANTAGE, AND ALTOGETHER UNRECOGNIZABLE
AS THE LEADER OF THE FREE ECONOMIES OF THE WORLD.

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